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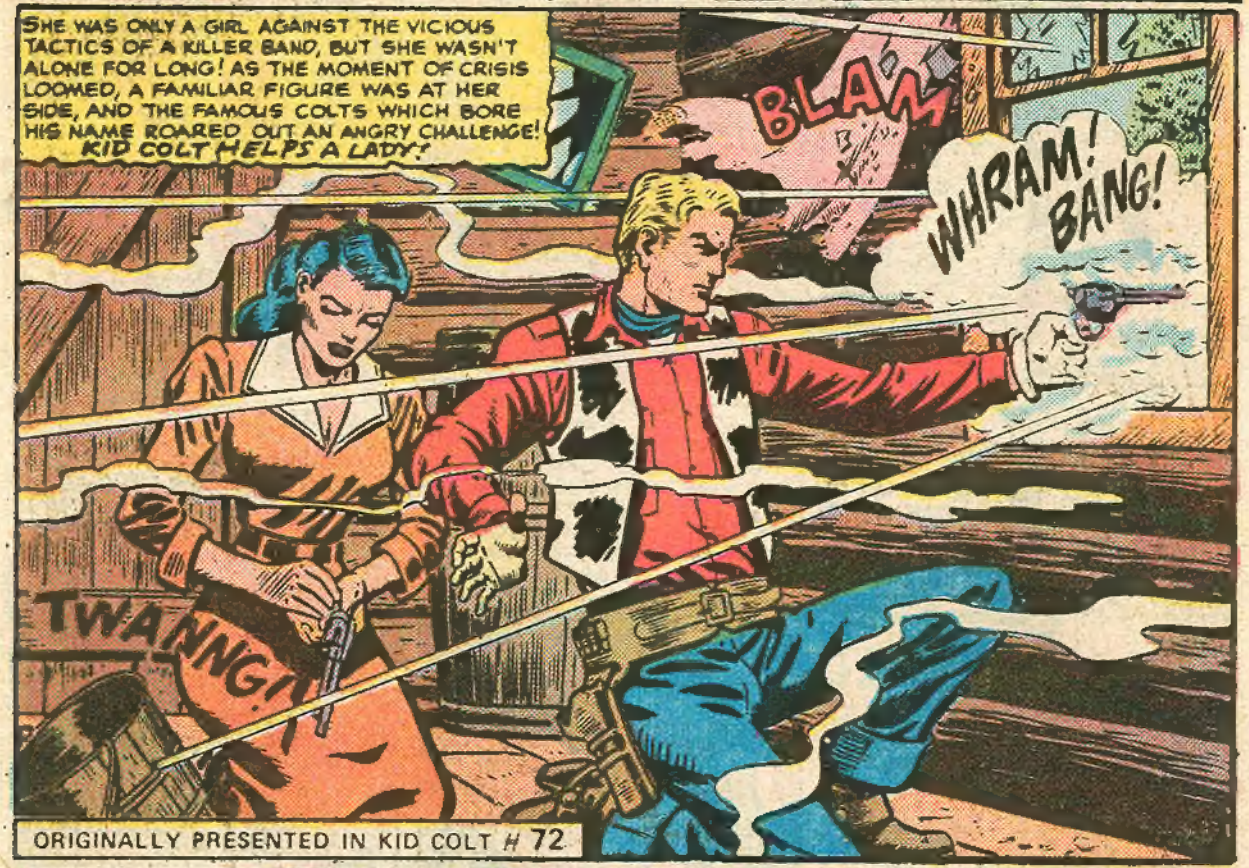
Stan Lee PRESENTS:

KID COLT OUTLAW™

THE LEGEND OF KID COLT... YEARS AGO, KID COLT KILLED AN OUTLAW IN SELF-DEFENSE! BUT, BEING YOUNG AND FOOLISH, HE FLED, INSTEAD OF STAYING TO STAND TRIAL! SINCE THEN, HE HAS SPENT HIS LIFE TRYING TO ATONE FOR HIS MISTAKE!


SHE WAS ONLY A GIRL AGAINST THE VICIOUS TACTICS OF A KILLER BAND, BUT SHE WASN'T ALONE FOR LONG! AS THE MOMENT OF CRISIS LOOMED, A FAMILIAR FIGURE WAS AT HER SIDE, AND THE FAMOUS COLTS WHICH BORE HIS NAME ROARED OUT AN ANGRY CHALLENGE! KID COLT HELPS A LADY!
BLAM
WHRAM! BANG!
TWANNG!

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN KID COLT # 72

IF I FIGGERED KID COLT WOULD BE IN ON THIS, I NEVER WOULD'VE SHOWN UP!
QUIT JAWIN' AN' KEEP MOVIN'! WE'VE GOTTA GET 'EM OUT OF HERE!
WHRAM!
PTINNG!

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WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
NOT IF YUH DON'T SHAKE YORE LEGS! C'MON!
BRAMM!
WHRAM!
ZING!
THEY'RE RIDING OFF!
I RECKON THOSE LAST SHOTS PUT THE RIGHT SCARE INTO THEM!
NOW, HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON, SUE? WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?
I'M NOT TOO SURE, KID, BUT IT STARTED ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO!
NOT LONG AFTER UNCLE SIMMS WAS KILLED IN THAT ACCIDENT, I BEGAN TO GET OFFERS FOR THE RANCH! JEB RAWLINS WAS THE MOST PERSISTENT THOUGH! I KEPT TELLING HIM I WOULDN'T SELL, AND THEN THESE INCIDENTS BEGAN! THAT'S WHY I SENT FOR YOU!
DID RAWLINS EVER TAKE PART IN THEM?
HE'S TOO CLEVER FOR THAT! HE USES ADAMS AND HIS MEN, THE ONES YOU CHASED OFF, TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK FOR HIM!
BUT THERE'S ONE PIECE OF GOOD NEWS! MY BROTHER BRAD IS ON HIS WAY BACK FROM TEXAS! I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE WE WERE KIDS, BUT I'LL FEEL A LOT BETTER WITH HIM HERE!
THAT IS GOOD NEWS, AND I'LL STICK CLOSE, TILL HE GETS HERE!
LATE THAT NIGHT, AT JEB RAWLINS' RANCH...
YUH CAN'T BLAME US, RAWLINS! WE HAD NO IDEA THE KID WAS THERE! WHEN I GOT NICKED, THE BOYS HAD TO CALL IT QUITS!
YOU CAN CALL IT QUITS, ADAMS... BUT NOT ME!
2.

I WANT THAT PIECE OF PROPERTY, AND I WANT IT BAD! I GOT WORD THE GIRL IS EXPECTING HER BROTHER FROM TEXAS, AND THAT MEANS WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST!
BUT WHILE THE RUTHLESS GANG LEADER SPOKE, ANOTHER AUDIENCE LISTENED OUTSIDE...
THEY'RE DISCUSSING SUE AND HER BROTHER, BUT I CAN'T MAKE IT ALL OUT!
REACH FAST AN' TURN SLOW!
ALL RIGHT, WHAT DO I DO NOW?
YOU DON'T DO NOTHIN'...
...JUST RELAX!
NOTHIN' TO GET EXCITED ABOUT, BOSS! I SPOTTED THIS CRITTER SNOOPIN' AROUND, SO I KINDA STOPPED HIS SNOOPIN'!
THAT'S KID COLT, AND I'M GOIN' TO EVEN UP OUR GUN FEUD HERE AN' NOW!
NO SHOOTING HERE, YOU FOOL! MY NEIGHBORS ARE TOO CLOSE!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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SURE...WE'LL DO IT REAL GOOD!
A HALF-HOUR LATER...
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SOON, THEIR LAUGHTER FILLED THE AIR...
OVER YUH GO! HA, HA, HA!
PLEASANT JOURNEY! HO, HO, HO, HA!
I TOLD YUH HE'D REALLY MOVE! HA, HA! JUST LIKE A RUNAWAY MULE!
HE SURE DID A FAST FADEOUT!
THE LONG HOURS PASSED, AND WITH THE COMING OF DAWN, A RAY OF SUNSHINE FINGERED ITS WAY DOWN THE ROCKY SLOPE, PICKING OUT A JAGGED STONE, A HAT...
AND THEN...
I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO SUE'S PLACE! GOT TO GET THERE... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
4

MEANWHILE, AT SUE'S CABIN...
BRAD, IT'S BEEN SO LONG! IF I'D KNOWN YOU WERE COMING THIS MORNING, I WOULD HAVE MET YOU!
I DIDN'T WANT TO BOTHER YOU, SUE... AND I WANTED THE CHANCE TO DO SOME THINKING!
I'VE BEEN DOING PRETTY WELL IN TEXAS, WELL ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF US! THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO REMAIN UP HERE ALONE!
OH, BRAD, IT SOUNDS WONDERFUL!
THEN YOU'LL COME?
OF COURSE! THERE'S NOTHING TO HOLD ME HERE, AND I WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE SELLING THE RANCH!
I'D THINK CAREFULLY BEFORE SELLING, SUE!
OH... IT'S YOU, KID!
KID COLT... THIS IS MY BROTHER BRAD! HIS TRAIN GOT IN THIS MORNING!
MY PLEASURE!
YOU MEAN MY PLEASURE!
OHHHH!
GET OUT! GET OUT, OR I'LL KILL YOU!
EASY, SUE! I CAN EXPLAIN EVERY-THING!
5

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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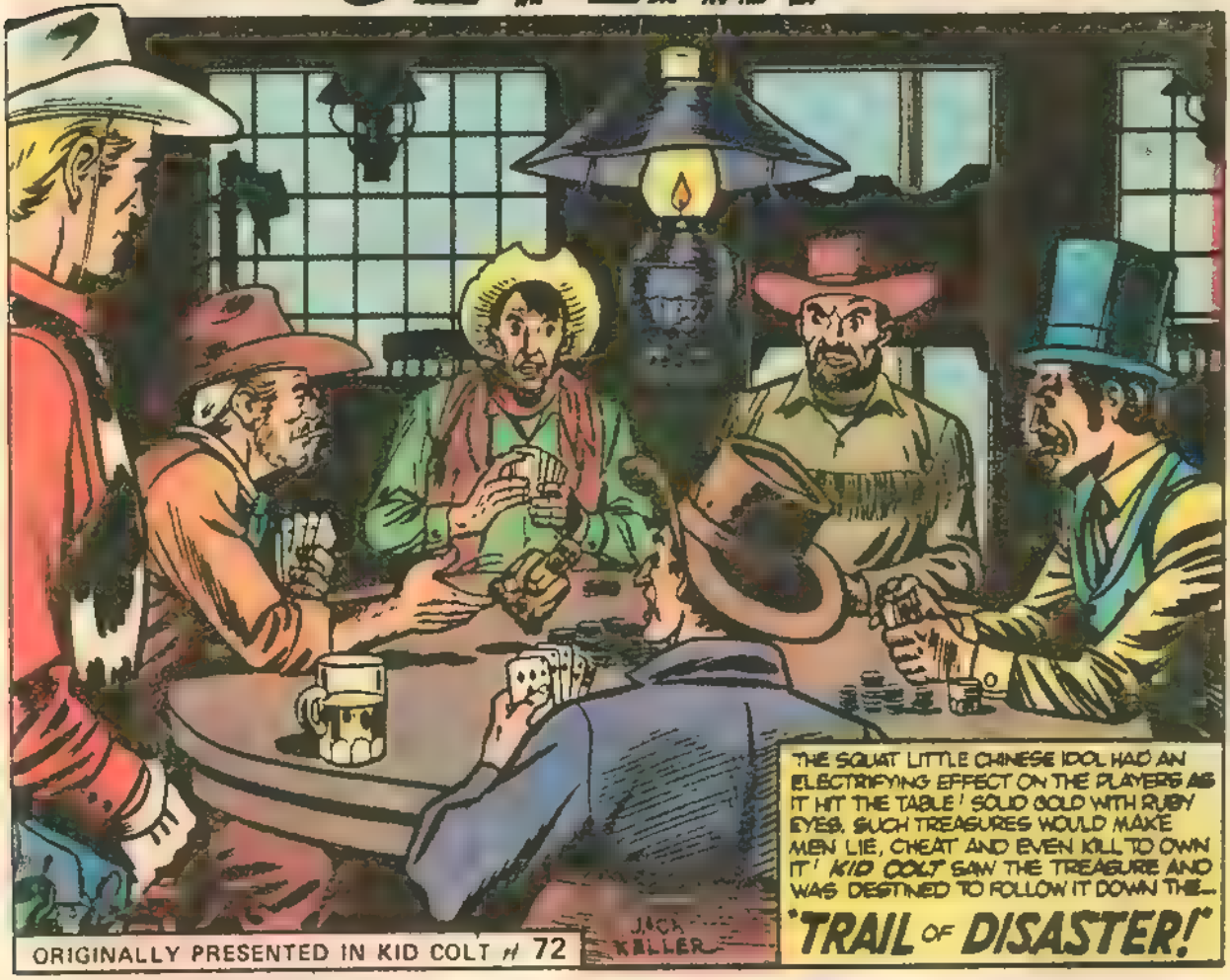
THEN WHO IS HE?
TURN AROUND REAL SLOW, AN' YOU'LL GET ALL THE ANSWERS!
HE HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF MY MEN, MISS LANE, BUT YOUR FRIEND MADE A MISTAKE IN KNOCKING HIM DOWN! I OFFERED AN EASY WAY TO DISPOSE OF THIS LAND...NOW WE'LL DO IT THE HARD WAY!
BUT WITH A BLUR OF SPEED, THE FAMOUS COLTS LEAPED INTO VIEW, CLEAVING THE AIR WITH A THUNDEROUS BLAST!
OWWW!
OHHH!
SPLANG!
BRAM!
WHRAM!
I'LL FIX YOU... ARGHHH!
BLAM!
THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN THE AUTHENTIC BRAD ARRIVED...
MY SISTER AND I WILL NEVER FORGET ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR US!
FORGET IT, BRAD! THE MAIN THING IS THAT RAWLINS AND HIS GANG ARE IN JAIL! HE WANTED THIS LAND BECAUSE THE RAILROAD PLANS TO BUILD A NEW SPUR THROUGH HERE! NOW YOU CAN SELL AT YOUR OWN PRICE!
TOO BAD HE'S GOING SO SOON! I WOULD'VE LIKED TO KNOW HIM BETTER!
ME TOO, BRAD.. A LOT BETTER!
THE END

KID COLT OUTLAW


THE SQUAT LITTLE CHINESE IDOL HAD AN ELECTRIFYING EFFECT ON THE PLAYERS AS IT HIT THE TABLE! SOLID GOLD WITH RUBY EYES, SUCH TREASURES WOULD MAKE MEN LIE, CHEAT AND EVEN KILL TO OWN IT! KID COLT SAW THE TREASURE AND WAS DESTINED TO FOLLOW IT DOWN THE...
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ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN KID COLT # 72

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WHAT? OH, YES..YES! ALL RIGHT, CANTRELL! LEAVE IT IN! I'M SAY A THOUSAND, BUT I'LL CALL YOUR BET! OPEN UP, BOYS!

AND FATE BEGAN TO WEAVE AN EVIL SPELL ABOUT THESE MEN...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT-PAGE

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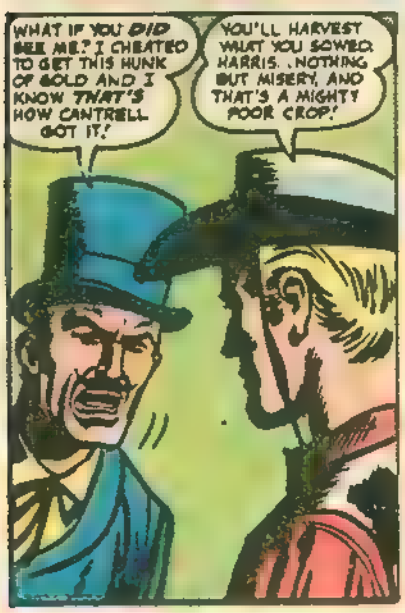
☐ I understand that by studying KARATE I am morally bound and obligated never to use it except in defense of myself and will never abuse it.

THE EXPLOSION CAME AS KID COLT HAD EXPECTED IT TO...

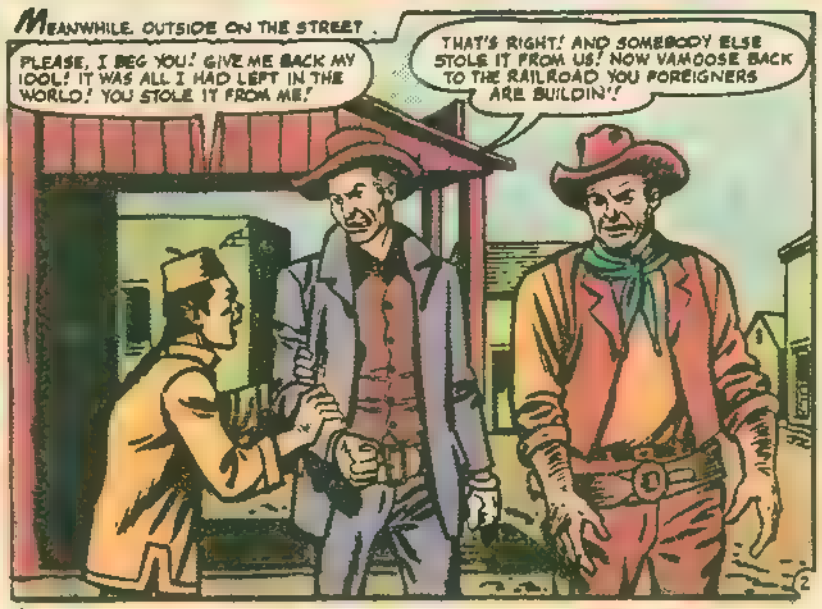
THE KID'S GUNS ROARED TO RESTORE ORDER...

THAT HUNK OF CARVED GOLD HAS YOU ALL LOCO! MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME WHERE YOU GOT IT, CANTRELL!
YOU MIND YOUR BUSINESS, COLT! IF DEUCE HARRIS TAKES THIS POT, HE'LL NEVER LIVE TO SPEND IT!

IT'S THE BEST STAKES I EVER WON! THIS TRINKET WILL KEEP ME ON EASY STREET FOR LIFE!
IF YOUR CONSCIENCE DOESN'T BOTHER YOU, HARRIS! I SAW YOU PULL THAT ACE FROM YOUR INSIDE POCKET!


WHAT IF YOU DID SEE ME? I CHEATED TO GET THIS HUNK OF GOLD AND I KNOW THAT'S HOW CANTRELL GOT IT!
YOU'LL HARVEST WHAT YOU SOWED, HARRIS...NOTHING BUT MISERY, AND THAT'S A MIGHTY POOR CROP!

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE ON THE STREET...


PLEASE, I BEG YOU! GIVE ME BACK MY IDOL! IT WAS ALL I HAD LEFT IN THE WORLD! YOU STOLE IT FROM ME!
THAT'S RIGHT! AND SOMEBODY ELSE STOLE IT FROM US! NOW VAMOOSE BACK TO THE RAILROAD YOU FOREIGNERS ARE BUILDIN'!

THIS POOR HOMBRE YOU CALLED A 'FOREIGNER' IS DOING MORE THAN YOU ARE FOR THE 'TERR TORY' HE'S BUILDING WHILE YOU TWO ARE DESTROYING!
WELL WE AIN'T GOT HIS LITTLE GOLD 'IDOL' SO GET IT FROM DEUCE HARRIS'
LING PO IS MY NAME' THE EVIL ONES STOLE MY IDOL! I CAME HERE TO WORK ON RAILROAD AND BECOME AMERICAN' THE GOLD BUDDHA WAS TO HELP BRING MY FAMILY HERE!
LING, I'M GOING TO GET THAT BUDDHA BACK FOR YOU' GO BACK TO THE RAILROAD GANG AND JUST TRUST ME'

BUT AS KID COLT WAS ABOUT TO ENTER DEUCE HARRIS' OFFICE.
SOMEBODY SHOT THE BOSS'
WHAT? STEP ASIDE AND LET ME IN!

ONE GLANCE TOLD THE STORY
THEY TOOK THE G-GOLD IDOL' OHHHH...
YOU'RE BEGINNING TO REAP THE HARVEST, DEUCE!

TRACKS OF A HIGH-HEELED MEXICAN BOOT! THEY'LL BE EASY TO FOLLOW'

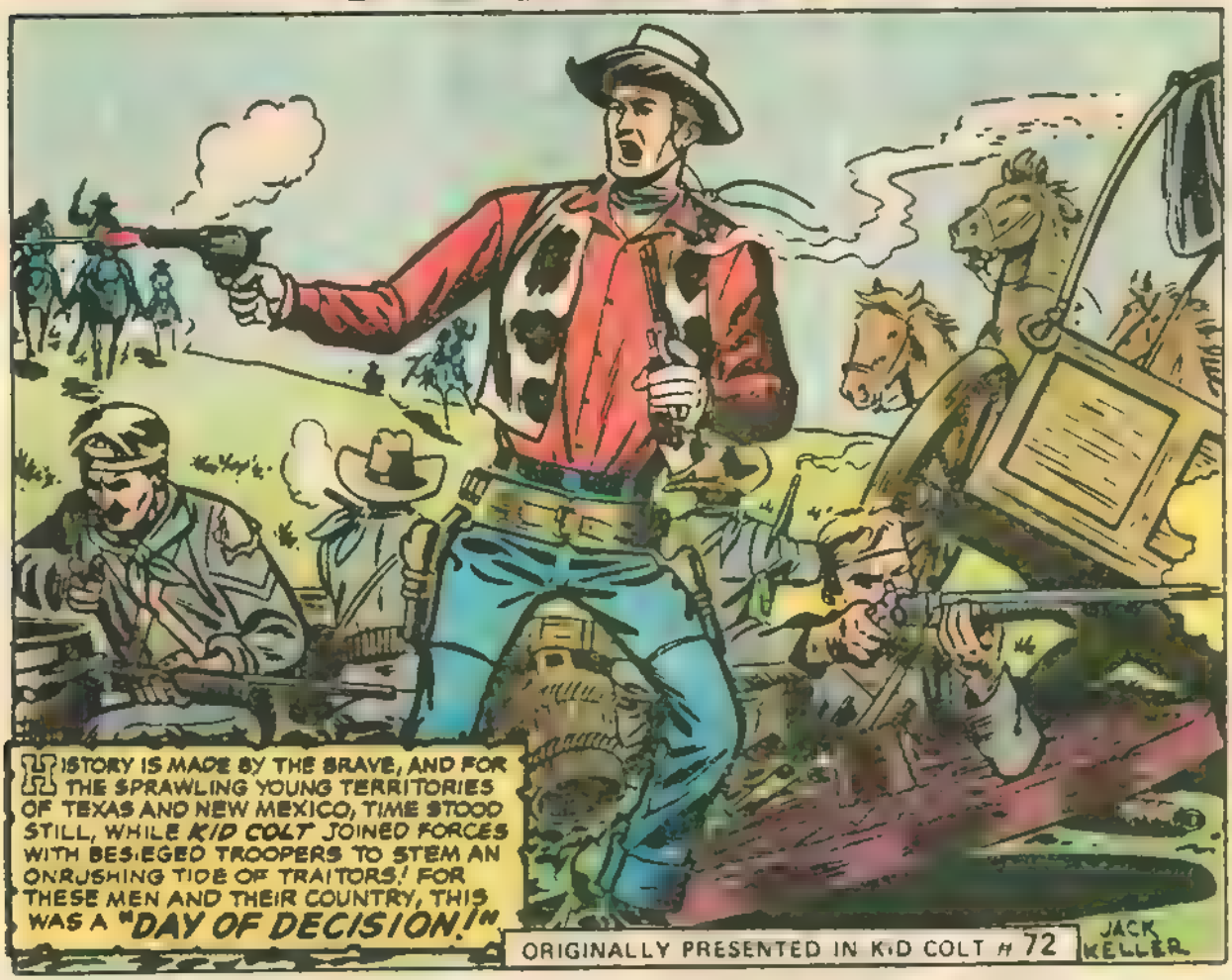
AND THUS THE TRAIL OF DISASTER LED TOWARD THE MOUNTAINS AND ANOTHER VICTIM OF GREED...
THOSE FOOLS' I LET THEM CHEAT AN ROB EACH OTHER IN THAT GAME, AND THEN I GOT HOLD OF THIS HUNK OF GOLD!

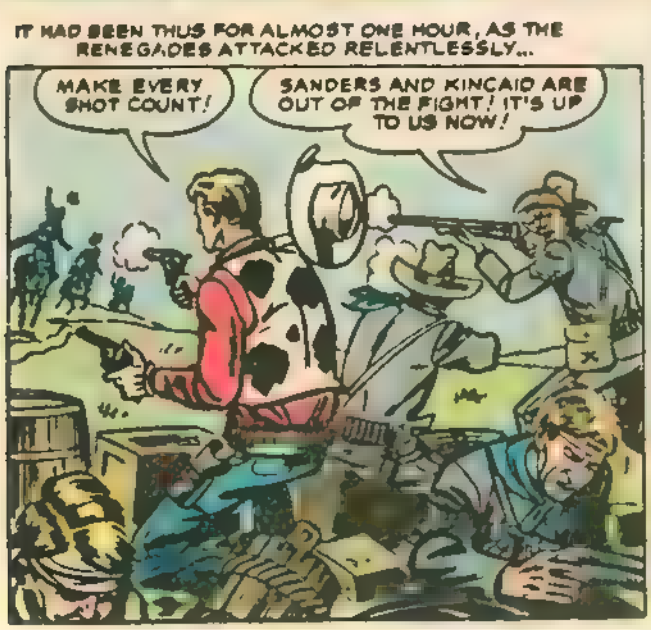
LUKE JAMES! PUT DOWN THEM GUNS'
NOT TILL I GET THAT FAT PIECE OF CARVED GOLD JAKE' I SAW YOU DRY GULCH DEUCE HARRIS' NOW IT'S MY TURN TO GET RICH! HAND IT OVER!

LISTEN, LUKE! THERE'S ENOUGH THERE FOR BOTH OF US. LET'S MAKE A DEAL! WE DO US CAN GET AWAY FASTER AND TRAVEL FARTHER!
THE HOMBRE WHO TRAVELS ALONE, TRAVELS FASTEST! YOU WEREN'T OFFERED ANY DEALS WHEN YOU SNATCHED THIS GOLD HOODOO!
THE RUBY EYES OF THE LITTLE IDOL SEEMED TO BLAZE WITH BALEFUL LIGHT AS IT HEARD TWO SHOTS...
ONCE AGAIN FATE WAS TWO JUMPS AHEAD OF KID COLT.
YOU WERE ONE OF THE HOMBRES IN THAT POKER GAME AND THAT MEANS THE FIFTH MAN IS NOW HOLDING THE UNLUCKY IDOL!
THAT'S RIGHT! GO AFTER HIM! I'LL CURSE THE DAY I SET EYES ON THAT HUNK OF GOLD!
I CAN STAY AND TAKE CARE OF YOU...
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT...GO AFTER LUKE JAMES! HE'S HEADED FOR EL TORO!
EL TORO! THAT MEANS HE'LL TRY TO CROSS THE DESERT AND HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT UNLESS HE'S CARRYING PLENTY OF WATER!
BUT WATER WAS THE LEAST IMPORTANT THING ON LUKE JAMES' MIND! HE COULD ONLY THINK OF THE PRICELESS TREASURE HE CARRIED
MOVE FASTER, YOU MANGY CAYUSE! I COULD HAVE TRAVELED FASTER BY MYSELF!
LUKE JAMES WAS WRONG! NOTHING COULD TRAVEL FAST IN THOSE HOT, MERCILESS SANDS
I NEED YOU WHEN WE GET OUT OF THIS DESERT, OTHERWISE I'D CUT YOU LOOSE RIGHT HERE!

NOW THE SUN WAS ATTACKING! IT DREW THE VITALITY FROM MAN AND HORSE AND SLOWED THEIR STEPS!
EUREKA! I DRANK TOO MUCH... DON'T GAUGE IT RIGHT BUT I'LL MAKE IT ANYWAY! I'LL LIVE TO SELL THIS GOLD TRINKET!
MEANWHILE WISE IN THE WAYS OF THE DESERT KID COLT PREPARED TO PLUNGE ACROSS THE WASTELAND
THESE RAGS WILL MAKE THE GO NO EASIER NOW I SINK INTO THE SAND TOO DEEP!
THE KID WAS RIGHT! ONE HOUR LATER
N-HELP ME! I NEED WATER! I'LL BUY IT F-FROM YOU! N-NAME YOUR P-PRICE!
THERE'S NO PRICE ON WATER JAMES! THERE'S ONLY A PRICE ON A MAN'S CONSCIENCE AND YOURS IS MIGHTY HIGH!
HERE! IT'S SOLID GOLD! I'LL SELL IT FOR A DRINK OF WATER!
IT'S NOT YOURS TO SELL! BUT I'LL SEE THAT IT GETS BACK TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER!
THERE'S ALL THE WATER YOU CAN DRINK BEHIND THAT RED BOULDER. MAYBE THIS STOLEN GOLD WAS TOO HEAVY LOAD. MAYBE FATE KEPT YOU FROM REACHING THAT WATER BY A FEW STEPS!
W-WATER?...BEHIND THAT BOULDER? I ALMOST MADE IT!
DRINK HEARTILY LIKE I TOOK A TRAIL OF DISASTER TO TEACH THE GREEDY HOMBRES A LESSON... BUT IT'S ONE YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!
THE END

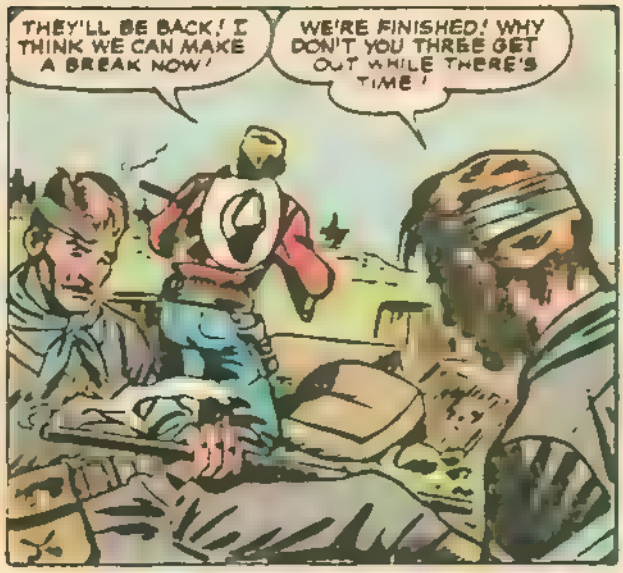
KID COLT OUTLAW

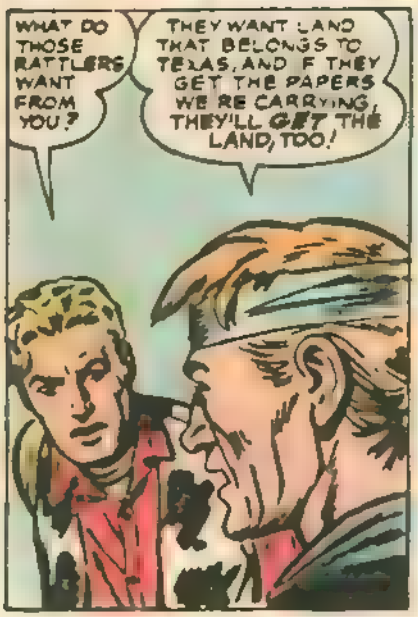

HISTORY IS MADE BY THE BRAVE, AND FOR THE SPRAWLING YOUNG TERRITORIES OF TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO, TIME STOOD STILL, WHILE KID COLT JOINED FORCES WITH BESIEGED TROOPERS TO STEM AN ONRUSHING TIDE OF TRAITORS! FOR THESE MEN AND THEIR COUNTRY, THIS WAS A "DAY OF DECISION!"
ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN KID COLT # 72
JACK KELLER

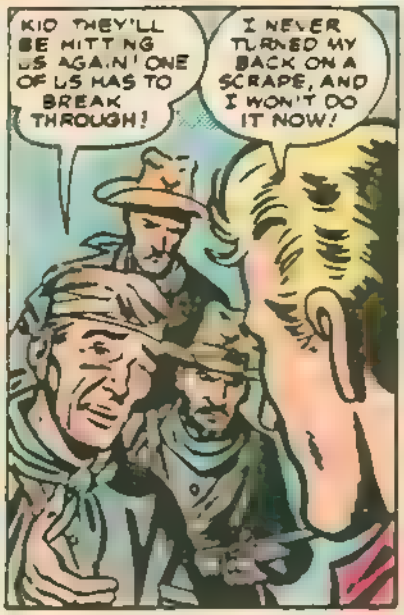

IT HAD BEEN THUS FOR ALMOST ONE HOUR, AS THE RENEGADES ATTACKED RELENTLESSLY...
MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT!
SANDERS AND KINCAID ARE OUT OF THE FIGHT! IT'S UP TO US NOW!

THE KID HAD FOUND THEM THIS WAY NOT TOO LONG AGO... FOUR BRAVE MEN AMBUSHED BY TRAITORS...

THE RENEGADES FELL BACK TO REGROUP, GIVING THE DEFENDERS TIME FOR PRECIOUS REST...




WHAT DO THOSE RATTLERS WANT FROM YOU?
THEY WANT LAND THAT BELONGS TO TEXAS, AND IF THEY GET THE PAPERS WE'RE CARRYING, THEY'LL GET THE LAND, TOO!



AT DUSK, FIVE MEN SADLY SHOOK HANDS...

SOON...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

FACE FRONT, TRUE BELIEVER! THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST IS BACK IN TOWN!

If you read last month's Bullpen Bulletins you've already had thirty days to await this pulsating page! You've demanded for years that we bring it back! And we're finally going to deliver! Deliver what? Why, the Mighty Marvel Checklist, which every two weeks will appear to tell you the captivating contents of all bombastic books which will be on sale. There's a space after each title which you can check when you've purchased that mag, to make sure that you don't miss a single majestic issue. That, plus the upcoming covers, combine to produce a Mighty Marvel bonus you won't want to miss! Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Comics?

DAREDEVIL #131 ☐. Meet the man whose hands mean murder! Marv Wolfman, Bob Brown and Klaus Janson team up to introduce the most maniacal weapons-master Mighty Marvel has ever produced— Bullseye! All this, and the secret behind the destruction of Foggy Nelson's campaign. **(On sale week of December 2)**

INVADERS #5 ☐: If Roy Thomas (writer/editor) had known at press time the title of this Rich Buckler pencilled and Dick Ayers inked yarn in which these yesteryear heroes get captured by the Red Skull, we're sure he'd have told us. But he didn't, so just watch out for the Liberty Legion! **(On sale week of December 2)**

TOMB OF DRACULA #42 ☐: Move over, Van Helsing, Blade is back in town! In a captivating confrontation, our vampire slayer (as brought to you by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan, and Tom Palmer) battles the Lord of the Undead (with a little help from Harold H. Harold. And here comes Paul Butterworth of the Boston Bugle— Peter Parker, watch out! Don't miss "The Night Staker!" **(On sale week of December 2)**

DOC SAVAGE #3 ☐: Doc and his fearless five face malevolent metal monsters in an assault on a sinister sanctum, as Doug Moench, John Buscema, and Tony De Zuniga bring you "The Inferno Scheme!" PLUS: Renny in love! All this and an interview with Michael Anderson (director of the Doc Savage film) too! **(On sale week of December 2)**

DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU #20 ☐: Chuck Norris, dean of the dojos, steps into the martial arts article spotlight! Bill Mantlo, writer, and George Perez and Jack Abel, artists, introduce a startling Kung Fu concept in the story called "White Tiger!" And you won't want to miss Chris Claremont's and Rudy Nebres' second chapter of the Iron Fist saga, "Soul Slayer!" Be here! **(On sale week of December 2)**

PLANET OF THE APES #17 ☐. Mike Ploog and Tom Sutton team up to pencil and ink Doug Moench's touching tale of a boy and his gorilla as Jason and Alexander become "Prisoners of the Psychedrum!" And as if that weren't enough, we have the first chapter of our CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES adaptation, and articles galore! All for only 75¢! **(On sale week of December 4)**

ASTONISHING TALES #34 ☐: "Not All the King's Men Could Put Deathlok Together Again," but Bill Mantlo, Rich Buckler, and Klaus Janson have put together a tintinnabulating tale as Major Ryker becomes the Savior Machine to do battle with our deathless Demolisher! **(On sale week of December 9)**

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #14 ☐: Special guest-penciller Herb Trimpe, in conjunction with Boisterous Bill Mantlo, presents "Ghost Town!" in which our ever-lovin' blue-eyed Thing meets up with Daimon Hellstrom, the Son of Satan. You won't want to miss Ben Grimm possessed! **(On sale week of December 9)**

MASTER OF KUNG FU #38 ☐: In a Doug Moench, Paul Gulacy, and Dan Adkins martial arts masterpiece, Shang-Chi, the son of Fu Manchu, meets the Kung Fu criminal known as Cat in a story that could only be called (what else?) "Cat!" **(On sale week of December 9)**

CAPTAIN AMERICA #195 ☐. It's "1984" as Jack Kirby continues with the third installment of his bi-centennial saga! And introducing the inimitable ink style of D. Bruce Berry! **(On sale week of December 9)**

SKULL #4 ☐: A new artist! A new writer! A new direction! Steve Englehart and Sal Buscema (with a surprise inker!) introduce a new plot twist in the lives of the supporting characters as the Black Knight enters! **(On sale week of December 9)**

THOR #245 ☐: The end of the Time Twisters! The beginning of a new plotline! All this and more to be found in "Temple at the End of Time," by Len Wein, John Buscema, and Joe Sinnott! **(On sale week of December 9)**

SPIDER-MAN #154 ☐: In a special issue, fill-in penciller Sal Buscema, Len Wein, writer, and Frank Giacoia and Mike Esposito, inkers, remind us that "The Sandman Always Strikes Twice!" And don't miss the mysterious villain lurking through Peter Parker's four-color life— he'll knock you outta your tree! **(On sale week of December 9)**

SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #10 ☐: Preeeeeesenting— the final, long-awaited chapter of Mighty Marvel's CONAN THE CONQUEROR adaptation! This fifty-eight page action extravaganza featuring our boisterous barbarian is brought to you entirely by Roy Thomas (author), John Buscema (penciller), and Tony de Zuniga and The Tribe (inkers)! Don't miss it, True Believer— you'll never forgive yourself! **(On sale week of December 12)**

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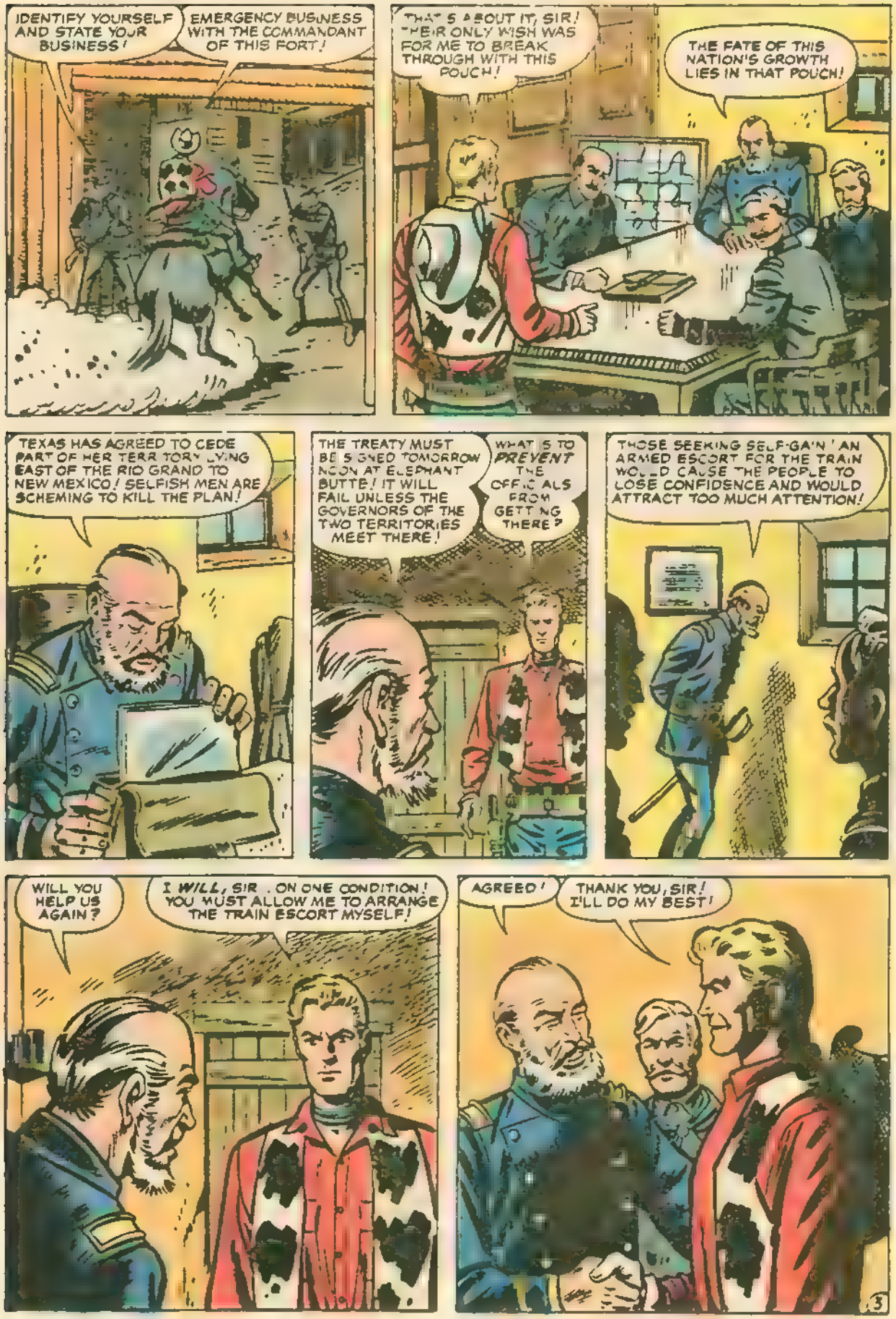
AT DAWN, THE FOLLOWING DAY...
IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND STATE YOUR BUSINESS!
EMERGENCY BUSINESS WITH THE COMMANDANT OF THIS FORT!
MINUTES LATER, THE KID WAS TELLING HIS STORY...
THAT'S ABOUT IT, SIR! THEIR ONLY WISH WAS FOR ME TO BREAK THROUGH WITH THIS POUCH!
THE FATE OF THIS NATION'S GROWTH LIES IN THAT POUCH!
TEXAS HAS AGREED TO CEDE PART OF HER TERRITORY LYING EAST OF THE RIO GRAND TO NEW MEXICO! SELFISH MEN ARE SCHEMING TO KILL THE PLAN!
THE TREATY MUST BE SIGNED TOMORROW NOON AT ELEPHANT BUTTE! IT WILL FAIL UNLESS THE GOVERNORS OF THE TWO TERRITORIES MEET THERE!
WHAT IS TO PREVENT THE OFFICIALS FROM GETTING THERE?
THOSE SEEKING SELF-GAIN! AN ARMED ESCORT FOR THE TRAIN WOULD CAUSE THE PEOPLE TO LOSE CONFIDENCE AND WOULD ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION!
WILL YOU HELP US AGAIN?
I WILL, SIR. ON ONE CONDITION! YOU MUST ALLOW ME TO ARRANGE THE TRAIN ESCORT MYSELF!
AGREED!
THANK YOU, SIR! I'LL DO MY BEST!
3

IT WAS ALMOST DUSK WHEN THE KID FINISHED CHECKING THE TRAIN...

CAPTAIN, YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THE TRAIN CREW?
EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN HAND-PICKED; THE GOVERNORS' STAGE SHOULD BE HERE SOON!
207

IN THE GRAY, PRE-DAWN HOURS, NO ONE SAW TREACHERY STRIKE INSIDE THE CABOOSE...

WORK FAST! WE'LL HAUL THEM OUTSIDE AND THEN YOU BOYS CLIMB INTO THEIR OUTFITS!
TELL BULL AKINS TO WATCH FOR OUR SIGNAL NEAR CONDOR PASS!

AT 5:45 A.M. A STAGE HALTED AND TWO FIGURES WERE HURRIED INTO THE TRAIN.

THREE HOURS AFTER THE TRAIN WAS ON ITS WAY..

SECONDS LATER, IN THE CABOOSE..

THE POWERFUL COLTS LEAPED GRACEFULLY FROM WORN HOLSTERS, THEIR MUZZLES SPITTING ANGRY FLAMES AS THEY SHOOK AND ROARED...

MEANWHILE, A HORDE OF GRIM RIDERS BORE DOWN ON THE SPEEDING TRAIN...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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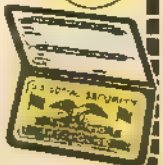

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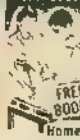

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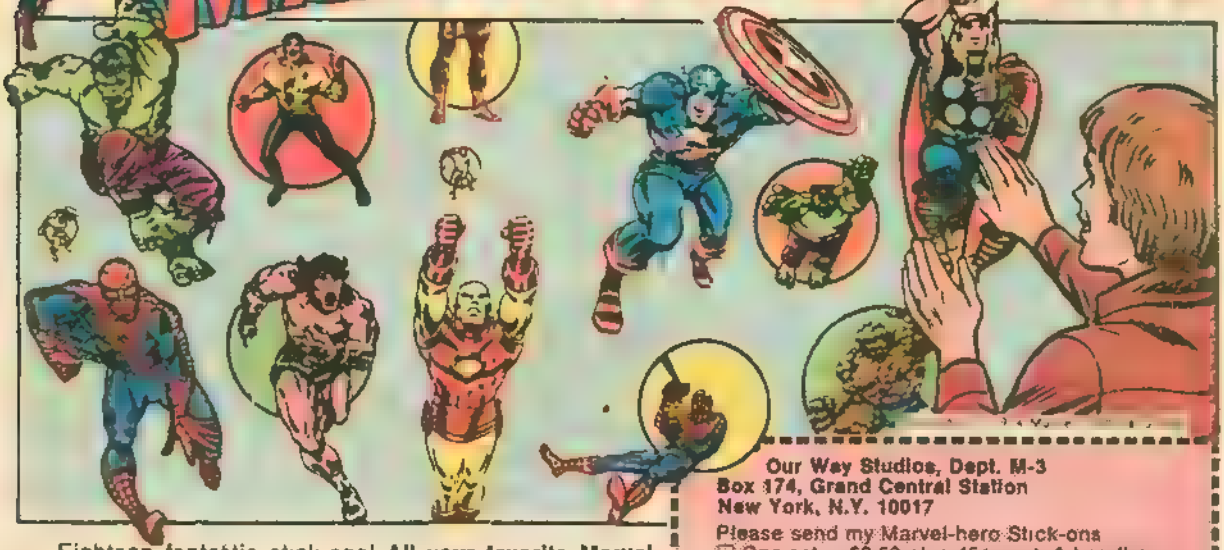

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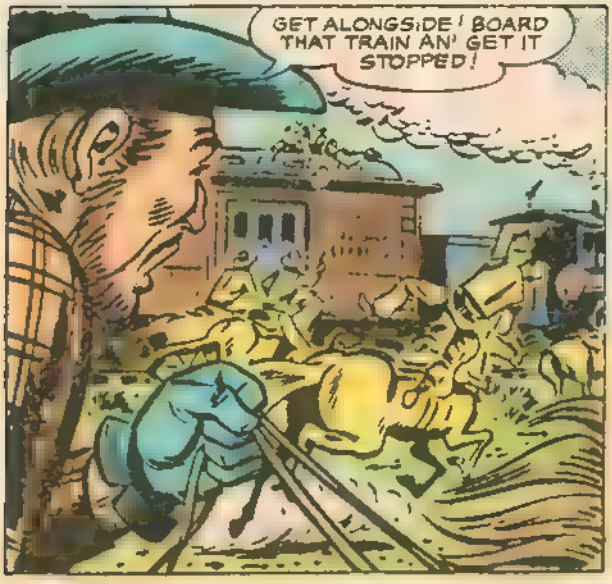
A LITHE SHAPE CLUNG TO THE ROOF OF THE TRAIN...

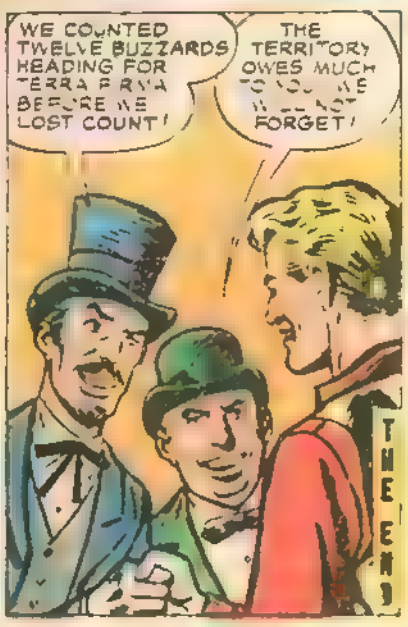


WITH NO TIME TO RELOAD THE KID FOUGHT LIKE A TIGER!

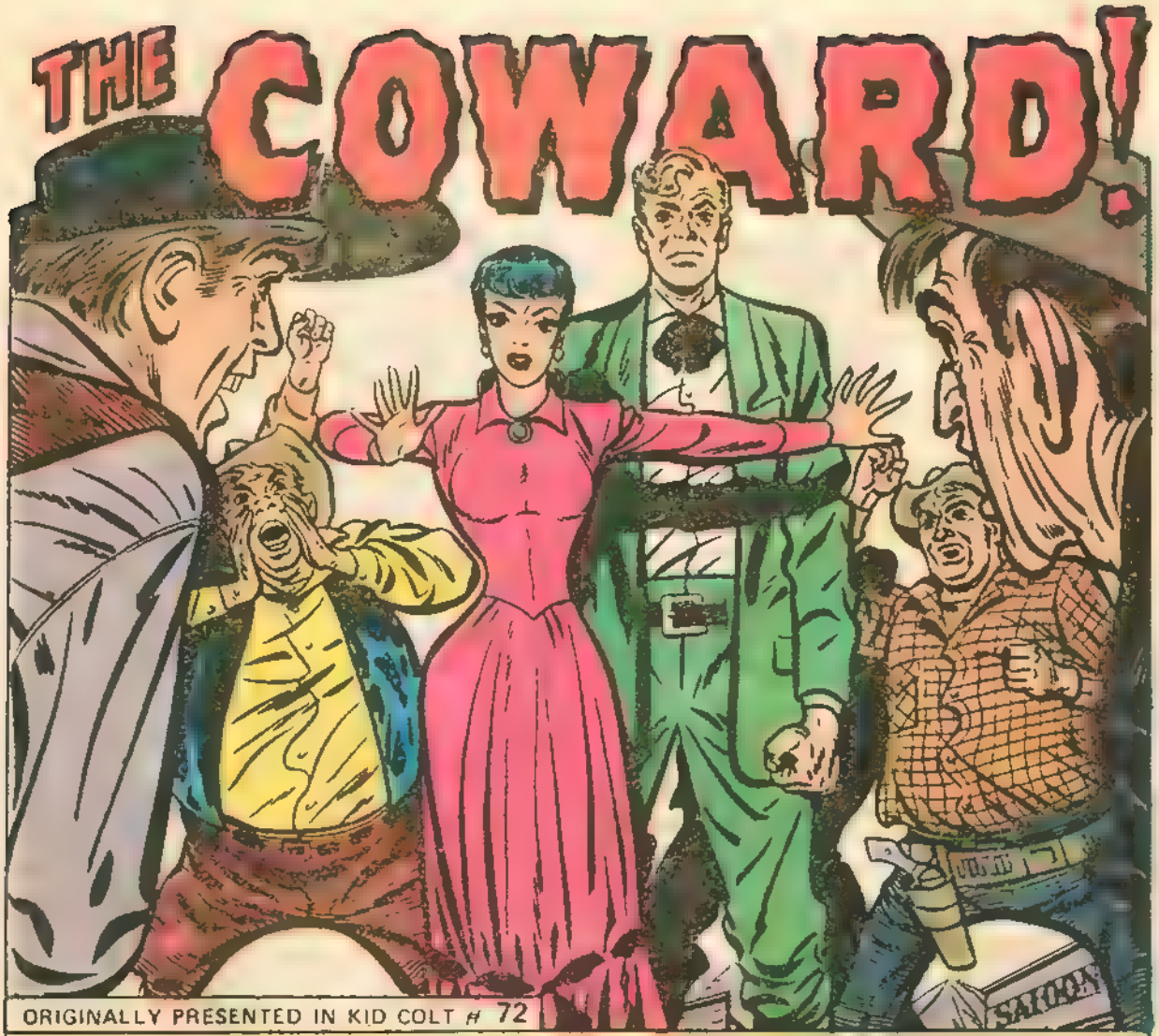
MEANWHILE, IN THE CAB...

LATER, IN ELEPHANT BUTTE...

OUR COMPLIMENTS TO YOU AND THE MANNER IN WHICH YOU HANDLED THIS ASSIGNMENT. WE HOPE YOU SPENT AS QUIET A TRIP AS WE DID, MR. COLT!
GLAD YOU SLEPT WELL SIR

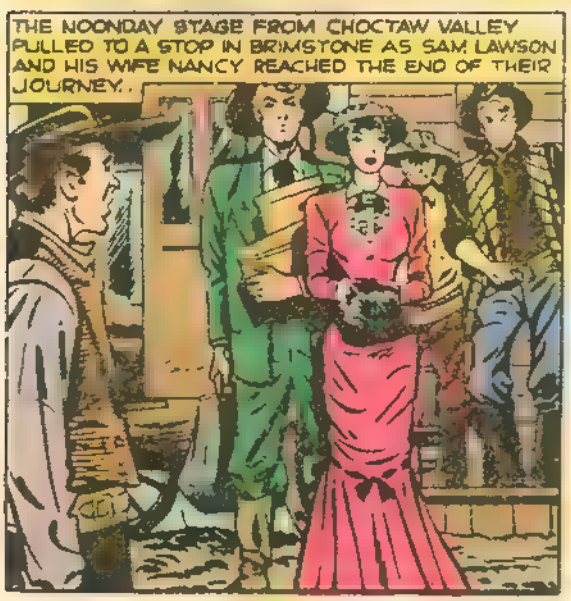

WE COUNTED TWELVE BUZZARDS HEADING FOR TERRA FIRMA BEFORE WE LOST COUNT!
THE TERRITORY OWES MUCH TO YOU ME WILL NOT FORGET!
THE END

THE COWARD!



ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN KID COLT # 72

WHAT MAKES A MAN A COWARD?... FEAR?... LOVE?... HATE? THE STRANGER THAT CAME TO BRIMSTONE WAS A BIG FELLOW... STOOD SIX FEET-TWO IN HIS BOOTS, AND HE HAD MUSCLES THAT BULGED LIKE BANDS OF STEEL BENEATH HIS CLOTHES! BUT ALL HE DID WAS WHITTLE AND CARRY PACKAGES FOR HIS WIFE! THE WHOLE TOWN LAUGHED AND INSULTED HIM... THEN THEY MADE AN AMAZING DISCOVERY WHEN THEY CALLED THE STRANGER... A ***COWARD!***


THE NOONDAY STAGE FROM CHOCTAW VALLEY PULLED TO A STOP IN BRIMSTONE AS SAM LAWSON AND HIS WIFE NANCY REACHED THE END OF THEIR JOURNEY..

HERE'S A HOTEL, SAM 'COME ALONG AND BE CAREFUL NOT TO STUMBLE'
DON'T WORRY, HONEY.. I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU'
HAW... HEAR THAT, NEVADA? BE CAREFUL NOT TO STUMBLE! HAW!
YEAH, HOLD ON TO WIFEY'S APRON STRING, SON' HAW'

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

A KALEIDOSCOPE OF KINETIC KIBITZING AND KOOKY KOMMENTARY KENNED TO KINDLE YOUR KARMA!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hey group, let's talk about Cons. Have you noticed how they've been proliferating? (Marv, tell Irv Forbush to relax— it isn't a naughty word!) It seems that every time you turn around someone is having a Comicbook Fan Convention somewhere— and nothing could make us happier. It's about time this country really got into culture! And now, here's an earth-shaking item for our "Don't Say I Didn't Warn Ya" department. For all of you who'll be in the Florida area the middle of this month (December), Yours Truly will be a guest of honor at the big, new Miami Con to be held at the Americana Hotel in Miami Beach from December 17th through the following weekend. I'll also be on hand for the Creation Con at New York's Commodore Hotel on January 3rd— so all non-believers have time to get out of town! But, the biggest kick of all, of course, will 'be the second annual Mighty Marvel Con which will be held at the selfsame Commodore Hotel here in Fun City during Easter Week! Okay— that's it! Adjust your calendars accordingly and set your timetables— you know how I hate talking to an empty auditorium. (Especially when it answers back!)

And now, a tip to all you frantic ones who complain about the difficulty of finding your favorite Marvel mags on sale when you want 'em. If you miss out on some of our minor masterpieces because your dealer just doesn't receive enough copies to meet the demand, here's what to do. Ask your proud purveyor of Marvel magic for the name of the wholesaler from whom he buys his magazines. Then, call or write that selfsame wholesaler, demanding that he supply more copies of Marvel Comics to your long-suffering dealer. Yep, your letters and phone calls will let 'em hear the thundrous voices of Marveldom Assembled, as peace and contentment settle once more o'er the ranks of comicbookdom throughout our fair land!

And now, it's back to the ol' typewriter. With ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS comfortably nestled upon the best-seller lists, and SON OF ORIGINS rapidly racing to overtake it, it's time to start work on the third book in our never-ending collectors' series— and wait'll you hear what that one's gonna be called. But— I've gotta save something for next time, so— till we meet again, remember— life can be a breeze, if you take it "cum grano salis"!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! As winter approacheth, and the snows do fall 'pon the trampled earth, mighty-thewed beasts of burden burrow into the deepest, dank caves ready for the long hibernation ahead. Fortunately for you, Faithful One, the burdened beasts of your batty bullpen can barely take the time for a quick snooze,let alone a five-month shut-eye, which is our sneaky way of telling you that Mighty Marvel is on the move again! We'll get into some of our new projects in a paragraph or three, but let us tell ya about a couple of more physical moves—namely, cross-country and county. Take Riotous RICH BUCKLER, the FANTASTIC FOUR's penciller supreme, for one. Not only has Rich taken to work on a whole slew of our cavortin' covers, but he's also moved back to the Big Apple just to be closer to the home of our boisterous blockbusters! And according to Newton's law—every action requires an opposite reaction, so TONY (The Tiger) ISABELLA has packed his bags and typing paper and made his long trek back to the wilds of Cleveland,where he will pen the awesome adventures of everyone's favorite cycle-star, the GHOST RIDER! And guess who's taking the biggest move of 'em all? Right on the first try—Stainless STEVE ENGLEHART, who's moved from being a bashful bachelor to the mirthful munificence of married life. We'd congratulate you, Steve; but the **real** congrats go to MARIE-THERESE BEACH, for not only putting up with your complete Marvel Collection, but all those blamed AVENGERS who keep popping in to proofread your paperwork.

ITEM! As for some of those other moves we sorta hinted at a moment ago, well,this is the big month for a couple of dutiful debuts. Let's roll out the red carpet and give a great big Marvel welcome to the long-demanded arrival of The Guardians Of The Galaxy, appearing in each and every issue of MARVEL PRESENTS. STEVE (Baby) GERBER and Mighty AL MILGROM pulled out all the stops with this galaxy-busting premiere story. So, join Starhawk and company for a voyage Star Trek never even dreamed of taking. And, while you're rocketing off with the Guardians, it wouldn't hurt to take a slight detour earthward for a peek behind the pages of MARVEL CHILLERS, where a certain wondrous Were-woman named Tigra is making her soul-shattering debut. We don't want to say that even our overworked mailmen had to finally give in, but your liltin' letters praising Tigra's appearances in GIANT-SIZE WEREWOLF and MONSTERS UNLEASHED are still crowding us out of our under-sized offices.

ITEM! And while we're introducing new artists to your beleaguered Bullpen, let's say hey to Fightin' FRANK THORNE, whose radiant renderings of a certain She-Devil with a sword will be popping out the bleary eyes of more than one love-struck Marvelite. Take a peek behind the pages of MARVEL FEATURE starring Red Sonja and see for yourself. And, while we're mentioning one barbarian, it only stands to reason to mention a few more. If you haven't seen it yet,.check out the pages of CONAN, where the epic tale of the beautiful Bêlit has begun. ROBERT E. HOWARD fans have been clamoring for this classic story for years, and now it's here—as only Mighty Marvel can present it. Big JOHN BUSCEMA and Socko STEVE GAN handle the art! And lastly, if ya promise not to tell anyone, we'll let you in on a scintillating secret. In just a few short months we'll be wingin' at you a third REH hero that you just may have heard of. What was it now—? Oh yeah—the guy's name is KULL THE DESTROYER, and the Bullpenner penning his tales will be none other than Rascally ROY THOMAS, who also scripts the other two battlers above. Which just may explain why our Editor Emeritus has taken to carrying his own broadsword strapped to his hip

ITEM! We've always heard that two's company and three's a crowd, but this is getting ridiculous. If you've been following the frantic adventures of the FANTASTIC FOUR, THE AVENGERS, THE INHUMANS, and THE SONS OF THE TIGER, you just may be familiar with the name Georgeous GEORGE PEREZ Y'see, unlike most artists who pop a mountainful of Exedrins just thinking about drawing our group strips, George seems to thrive on them, relishing each and every panel, and placing as many team members as he can all over the place We don't know about you, George, but we're sure of one thing—George? Will someone wake up George, please?

WE'RE NUMBER ONE

WHO IS HE?

Keep watchin', Marvelite, the answer is forthcoming.

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PETER PARKER IS IN MARY JANE WATSON'S APARTMENT WHEN SUDDENLY HE SEES A FAMILIAR ENEMY.
M.J., YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME FOR A MINUTE.
YOU HAVE THIS THING, TIGER, AND I HATE IT. EVERY TIME THERE'S TROUBLE, YOU DISAPPEAR.
RELAX, M.J., ALL I WANT TO DO IS GET SOME MILK TO HAVE WITH THESE HOSTESS CUP CAKES.
SURE, PETER, ANYTHING TO AVOID REALITY, BUT AT LEAST THIS TIME, YOU LEFT ME WITH A REALLY DELICIOUS SNACK. DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE... CHOCOLATY ICING... CREAMY FILLING.
I HATE HAVING MARY JANE THINK I'M A COWARD, BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY I CAN SLIP INTO MY SPIDER-MAN ROLE. AND ONLY SPIDEY CAN HANDLE... MAN MOUNTAIN MARKO!
DON'T LOOK NOW, MARKO, BUT THE MOUNTAIN JUST BECAME A MOLEHILL.
WEBHEAD, WE DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, BUT WE SURE APPRECIATE THE HELP!
THANKS, GUYS. MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT A QUART OF GRADE-A TO DELIVER.
SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG, M.J., BUT I-ER - GOT A LITTLE BIT DISTRACTED.
NO SWEAT, PETER, THE HOSTESS CUP CAKES YOU LEFT WITH ME WERE A LOT MORE REWARDING TO ME THAN YOU'VE EVER BEEN!
BROTHER, IF SHE ONLY KNEW...!
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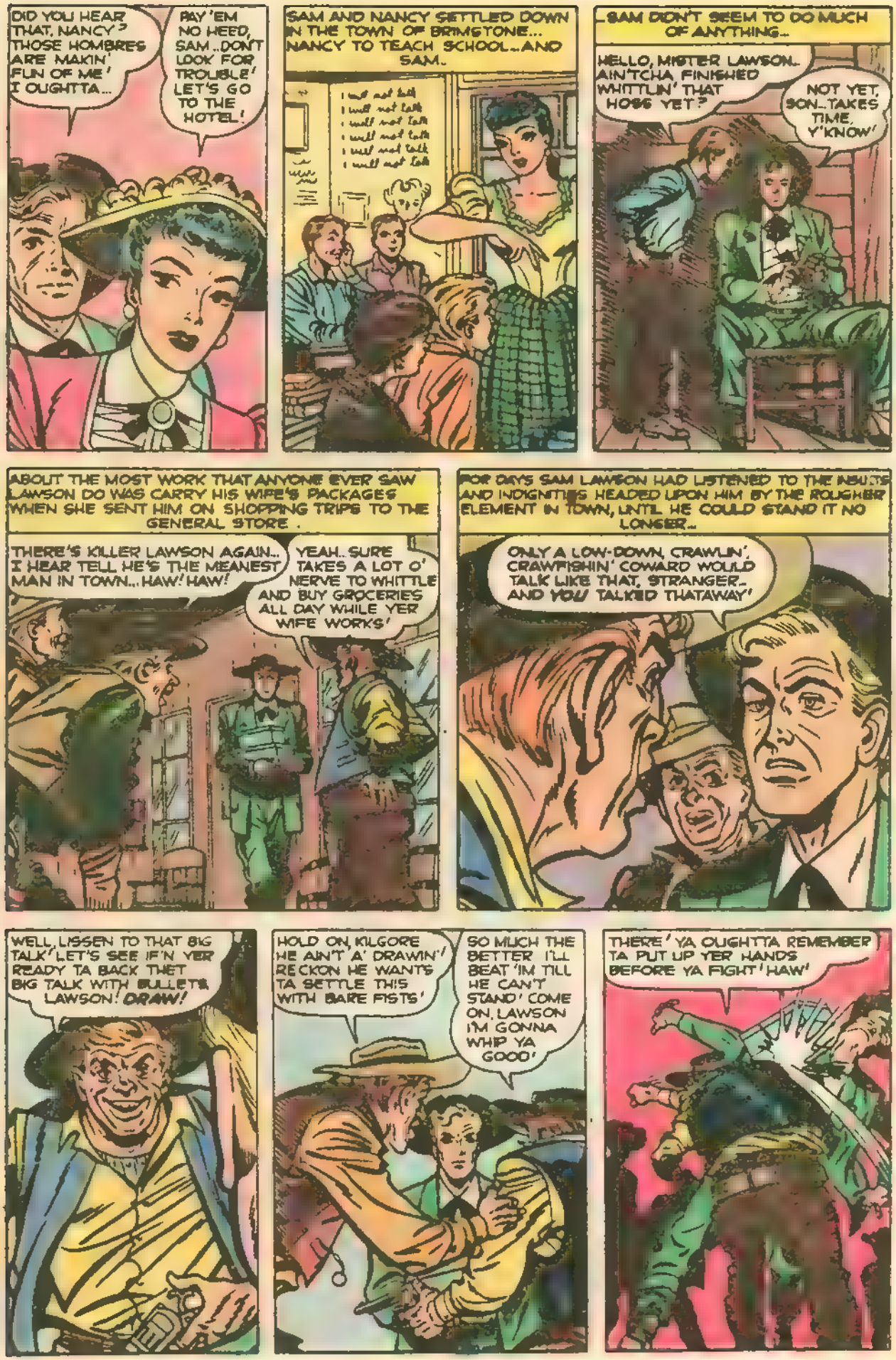
DID YOU HEAR THAT, NANCY? THOSE HOMBRES ARE MAKIN' FUN OF ME! I OUGHTTA...
PAY 'EM NO HEED, SAM..DON'T LOOK FOR TROUBLE! LET'S GO TO THE HOTEL!
SAM AND NANCY SETTLED DOWN IN THE TOWN OF BRIMSTONE... NANCY TO TEACH SCHOOL..AND SAM..
I will not talk
I will not talk
I will not talk
I will not talk
I will not talk
I will not talk
..SAM DIDN'T SEEM TO DO MUCH OF ANYTHING..
HELLO, MISTER LAWSON.. AIN'TCHA FINISHED WHITTLIN' THAT HOSS YET?
NOT YET, SON..TAKES TIME, Y'KNOW!
ABOUT THE MOST WORK THAT ANYONE EVER SAW LAWSON DO WAS CARRY HIS WIFE'S PACKAGES WHEN SHE SENT HIM ON SHOPPING TRIPS TO THE GENERAL STORE .
THERE'S KILLER LAWSON AGAIN... I HEAR TELL HE'S THE MEANEST MAN IN TOWN... HAW! HAW!
YEAH.. SURE TAKES A LOT O' NERVE TO WHITTLE AND BUY GROCERIES ALL DAY WHILE YER WIFE WORKS!
FOR DAYS SAM LAWSON HAD LISTENED TO THE INSULTS AND INDIGNITIES HEADED UPON HIM BY THE ROUGHER ELEMENT IN TOWN, UNTIL HE COULD STAND IT NO LONGER..
ONLY A LOW-DOWN, CRAWLIN', CRAWFISHIN' COWARD WOULD TALK LIKE THAT, STRANGER.. AND YOU TALKED THATAWAY!
WELL, LISSEN TO THAT BIG TALK! LET'S SEE IF'N YER READY TA BACK THET BIG TALK WITH BULLETS, LAWSON! DRAW!
HOLD ON, KILGORE HE AIN'T A' DRAWIN'! RECKON HE WANTS TA SETTLE THIS WITH BARE FISTS!
SO MUCH THE BETTER I'LL BEAT 'IM TILL HE CAN'T STAND! COME ON, LAWSON I'M GONNA WHIP YA GOOD!
THERE! YA OUGHTTA REMEMBER TA PUT UP YER HANDS BEFORE YA FIGHT! HAW!

THE FIGHT WENT ON THAT WAY FOR FIVE MINUTES, AND THEN, WHEN IT SEEMED AS THOUGH SAM LAWSON COULDN'T STAND ANY MORE... AND WHEN KILGORE STOPPED FOR BREATH, LAWSON WADED IN.. FISTS FLYING!
I'M GONNA GIVE YA AS GOOD AS I GOT, HOMBRE!

IT SEEMED MORE THAN FLESH AND BLOOD COULD STAND...THIS PUMMELING AND SLASHING AND MERCILESS FLOGGING...ONE OF THEM HAD TO BREAK DOWN SOON...

DON'T 'PEAR AS IF ANYONE DID ANYTHING TO YER HUSBAND, MA'AM... LOOKS MORE LIKE HE DID SOMETHIN' TO HANK KILGORE!
WHY DID YOU DO IT, SAM... WHY DID YOU LET HIM FIGHT, MEN?
NO REASON NOT TA LET 'EM FIGHT, MA'AM.. IT WUZ A FAIR FIGHT!

FAIR? YOU FOOLS.. MY HUSBAND IS BLIND! HE CAN'T SEE! THAT'S WHY HE DOESN'T WORK... HE USED TO BE A U.S. MARSHAL... HE GOT BLINDED IN THE LINE OF DUTY!
SUFFERIN' SNAILS.. AND WE THOUGHT HE WAS A COWARD!
EVEN BLIND, HE LICKED HANK KILGORE! THERE'S A MAN!

AND EVER SINCE THAT DAY, THE PEOPLE OF BRIMSTONE THOUGHT TWICE BEFORE ACCUSING ANYBODY OF BEING A COWARD..UNTIL THEY KNEW ALL THE FACTS! A LESSON THAT THE REST OF THE WORLD MIGHT HEED!

THE END

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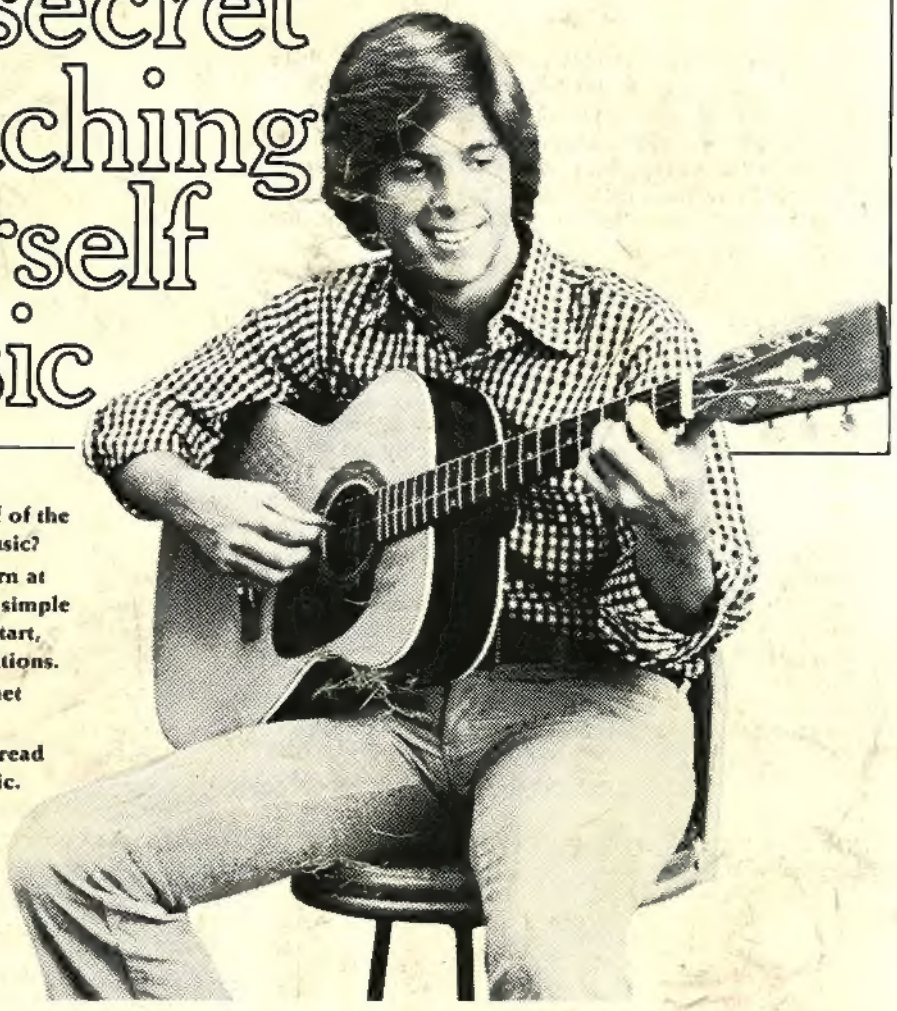

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Then you go on to more advanced pieces. By this time you can tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play whatever kind of music you like. Folk. Popular. Classical. Show and dance tunes. Hymns.

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Others also enjoy her playing, Mrs. Johanson reports. She plays for herself to relax after a trying day, and for her husband when he's tired. She also plays for friends when she goes to parties. "In a sentence," she says, "it's the most soul-satisfying thing that has ever happened to me."

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